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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-first session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda items 31 and 32

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING
THE USE BY STATES OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES FOR DIRECT
TELEVISION BROADCASTING

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile,
Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany
(Federal Republic of), Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan,
Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Sierra
Leone, Sudan, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
and Venezuela: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3388 (XXX) of 18 November 1975,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer
Space, ^{1/}

Reaffirming the common interest of mankind in furthering the exploration and
use of outer space for peaceful purposes and in extending to States the benefits
derived therefrom as well as the importance of international co-operation in this
field, for which the United Nations should provide a focal point, as expressed in
resolution 1721 (XVI) of 20 December 1961,

Reaffirming the importance of international co-operation in developing the
rule of law in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Convention on Registration of Objects
Launched into Outer Space on 15 September 1976,

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement
No. 23 (A/31/20).

76-10245

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*Adopted unanimously
by the First Committee
on 21 Oct 76*



A/C.1/31/PV.5-10

1. Endorses the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;
2. Invites States which have not yet become parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects and the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space to give early consideration to ratifying or acceding to those international agreements;
3. Notes with satisfaction that the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has
 - (a) Achieved considerable progress by
 - (i) Formulating nine draft principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting with a view to concluding an international agreement or agreements;
 - (ii) Formulating five draft principles and identifying three new common elements in the drafts submitted and the views expressed by Member States relating to the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space;
 - (b) Continued its work on the draft treaty relating to the moon, giving priority to the question of natural resources of the moon;
 - (c) Discussed questions relating to the definition and/or delimitation of outer space and outer space activities;
4. Recommends that the Legal Sub-Committee at its sixteenth session:
 - (a) Continue, as matters of high priority, to
 - (i) Consider the draft treaty relating to the moon;
 - (ii) Consider completing the elaboration of draft principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting with a view to concluding an international agreement or agreements;
 - (iii) Give detailed consideration to the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space, with the particular aim of formulating draft principles on the basis of common elements identified by it;
- (b) Pursue its work on questions relating to the definition and/or delimitation of outer space and outer space activities in the remaining time available;

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5. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which, inter alia:
 - (a) Examines further the question of remote sensing of the earth from space, as set out in paragraphs 26-81 in the report of its thirteenth session, considering in detail both the current preoperational/experimental as well as possible future global/operational phase of remote sensing system or systems;
 - (b) Continues in effect the United Nations programme on space applications;
 - (c) Provides for further study of a possible United Nations Conference on outer space matters;
6. Recommends that the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee continue at its fourteenth session its work on the matters before it, giving priority to the three items contained in paragraph 71 of the report of the Committee;
7. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee that full utilization be made by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies of their existing terms of reference with regard to the establishment of an appropriate co-ordinating role for the United Nations in the field of remote sensing;
8. Further endorses the recommendation of the Committee that the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee at its fourteenth session:
 - (a) Undertake the various studies and reports on remote sensing of the earth from space, as referred to in paragraph 42 of the report of the Committee;
 - (b) Prepare a study in depth on the question of convening a United Nations conference on space matters, as referred to in paragraphs 55 and 56 of that report;
 - (c) Request Member States to provide information on programmes or plans for generation or transmission of solar energy by means of space technology, as referred to in paragraph 72 of that report;
9. Endorses the United Nations programme on space application for 1977 as referred to in paragraph 46 of the report of the Committee;
10. Approves continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in India and the CELPA Mar del Plata Station in Argentina and expresses its satisfaction at the work being carried out at those ranges in the peaceful and scientific exploration of outer space;
11. Reiterates its request to the World Meteorological Organization to pursue actively the implementation of its tropical cyclone project while continuing and intensifying its other related action programmes including World

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Weather Watch and, especially, the efforts being undertaken towards obtaining basic meteorological data and discovering ways and means to mitigate the harmful effects of tropical storms and to remove or minimize their destructive potential, and looks forward to its report thereon in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

12. Requests the specialized agencies to provide the Committee with progress reports on their work, including particular problems in the fields within their competence relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

13. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of paragraph 73 of the report of the Committee, to consider strengthening the Outer Space Affairs Division;

15. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work, as set out in the present and previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-second session.

14. *Notes the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to hold the twentieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in Vienna in 1977 and accepts that invitation with appreciation.*

*(Romania, A/C.1/31/PV.10, p.3)
agreed to by sponsors*

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FIRST COMMITTEE
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(Sponsors to follow)

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